



State of Wisconsin
Department of Public Instruction
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

*****NEWS RELEASE*****

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program expands to more Wisconsin schools

MADISON—State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster announced today that more students in more schools throughout Wisconsin will be crunching on carrots or snacking on grapes while they learn the importance of eating fresh produce. The popular Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program is back, and it is expanding to 56 schools in Wisconsin for the 2008-09 school year.

“The wonderful aspect of this grant program is that it allows participating schools to offer fresh produce to all students in addition to the nutritious meals provided through the school breakfast and school lunch programs,” said Burmaster. “Hungry children can’t learn, and this program supports our efforts to boost achievement for all students and close the achievement gap by offering fresh fruits and vegetables throughout the day when children would otherwise be hungry.”

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, also referred to as the federal farm bill, permanently authorized the program nationwide. Schools that participate use their funding to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables and serve them to all students. Typically, schools serve the fruits and vegetables to children in their classrooms and balance the snack with a classroom activity such as nutrition education or silent reading. Some schools in the program have used hallway kiosks, free vending machines, tables or baskets in the nurse’s or school office, or other locations to distribute the fresh produce.

“Eating right and exercising are important to staying healthy, and we believe this program will have a positive lifelong impact on students,” said Burmaster. “Teaching children good nutrition now, and showing them how good fruits and veggies taste are lessons that will stay with them all their lives.”

Piloted in 2002 in an effort to combat childhood obesity by helping children learn more healthful eating habits, the program now provides \$40 million nationwide beginning in 2008-09. Wisconsin was

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awarded approximately \$871,000 for this school year. The program has the potential to reach more than 17,000 students in Wisconsin, with each participating school receiving approximately \$51 per student.

Funding is targeted to schools with a higher incidence of students from economically disadvantaged families. Participating schools must offer the fresh fruits and vegetables free of charge to all students and the fresh produce cannot be used to replace fruit or vegetable servings in the national school breakfast or lunch programs.

“This program works to increase children’s fruit and vegetable consumption, their awareness of fruits and vegetables, and their willingness to try new fruits and vegetables,” said Burmaster. “An additional benefit from this program is the effort to include produce grown locally by Wisconsin farmers as we continue working to create healthier school environments.”

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NOTES: This news release is available electronically at http://dpi.wi.gov/eis/pdf/dpi2008_131.pdf. More details about school nutrition programs can be found at <http://dpi.wi.gov/fns/index.html>.

A list of Wisconsin schools participating in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program and the amount of their grant allocations follows.

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Schools and Awards 2008-2009 SY

Adams-Friendship Area School District		Menominee Indian School District	
Adams Friendship Elementary	\$23,397	Keshena Primary School	\$19,064
Grand Marsh Elementary	\$5,913		
Almond-Bancroft School District		Milwaukee Area, Non-Public Schools	
Almond Elementary	\$8,615	Atlas Preparatory Academy Inc.	\$16,210
Antigo School District		Catholic East Elementary	\$7,595
East Elementary	\$6,882	Emmaus Lutheran	\$7,136
Baraboo School District		Garden Homes Community Montessori	\$14,426
South Elementary	\$15,902	Messmer Preparatory Catholic	\$22,378
Bayfield School District		Right Step Inc.	\$8,258
Bayfield Elementary	\$7,799	Saint Adalbert	\$23,091
Beecher-Dunbar-Pembine School District		Saint Anthony	\$51,331
Pembine Elementary	\$6,729	Saint Leo Catholic Urban Academy	\$9,277
Beloit School District		Saint Rose Catholic Urban Academy	\$9,736
Hackett Elementary	\$17,280		
Wright Elementary	\$12,489		
Eau Claire Area School District		Milwaukee Public Schools	
Lakeshore Elementary	\$19,166	Bruce Elementary	\$18,117
Longfellow Elementary	\$16,312	Bryant Elementary	\$15,287
Flambeau School District		Carleton Elementary	\$13,537
Flambeau Elementary	\$15,089	Fifty-Third Street Elementary	\$22,132
Frederic School District		Hayes City-wide Bilingual	\$19,456
Birch Street Elementary	\$13,610	Maple Tree Elementary	\$17,191
Gilman School District		Metcalf Elementary	\$17,242
Gilman Elementary	\$12,489	Pierce Elementary	\$24,654
Green Bay Area School District		Thoreau Elementary	\$32,889
Eisenhower Elementary	\$20,543	Westside Academy I	\$20,588
Nicolet Elementary	\$23,295		
Indian Community School, Franklin		Northwood School District	
Indian Community	\$15,955	Northwood Elementary	\$9,736
Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe, Hayward		Oneida Nation Schools, Oneida	
Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe School	\$7,085	Oneida Nation Elementary	\$16,261
Ladysmith-Hawkins School District		Osseo-Fairchild School District	
Ladysmith Elementary	\$19,829	Fairchild Elementary	\$4,537
Madison Metropolitan School District		River Valley School District	
Falk Elementary	\$15,700	Lone Rock Elementary	\$5,199
Glendale Elementary	\$20,696	Seneca School District	
Hawthorne Elementary	\$16,312	Seneca Elementary	\$6,219
Manitowoc School District		South Shore School District	
Jefferson Elementary	\$20,950	South Shore Elementary	\$4,843
Mauston School District		Stevens Point Area School District	
Grayside Elementary	\$13,253	James Madison Elementary	\$21,205
Menasha School District		Wautoma Area School District	
Gegan Elementary	\$19,523	Redgranite Elementary	\$5,454
Jefferson Elementary	\$9,481	Wisconsin Rapids School District	
		Mead Elementary	\$23,652
		Total	\$870,994